



**Alberta
Cattle
Commission**

GRASS routes

The Alberta Cattle Producer Monthly Update

March 2001

Call us at (403) 275-4400

**Producer
Profile:**

Arno Doerksen



Arno Doerksen is vice-chair of the ACC. He and his family run a pure-bred and commercial cow herd at **Gem**. They background and finish calves in their feedlot and do some custom feeding. Arno has been active in a number of community organizations. He has been involved with the ACC and Canadian Cattlemen's Association as a delegate, director and committee chair. He looks forward to continuing to serve the industry.

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ACC Presents Recommendations for Livestock Operations

The Alberta Cattle Commission made recommendations to the Sustainable Management of the Livestock Industry in Alberta Committee, calling for close co-operation between the province and municipalities.

"The province and municipalities need to work together in approving regulatory standards for livestock operations. Producers need to know what they're up against so they can work towards achieving their goals," said Greg Conn, ACC chairman.

In its submission, the ACC encouraged the government to consider the

creation of a provincial agency or arm of Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development to handle the regulations and deal with public concerns about operations. It was pointed out that intensive livestock operations need improved certainty about their future to grow, locate and stay competitive.

Canadian Cattle Identification

Dates to remember:

Jan. 1/2001: Cattle leaving herd of origin must be tagged

June 30/2001: Packing plant begin reading tags

July 1/2002: Full enforcement begins

B.I.C. Partners with Heart & Stroke Foundation

February was heart month, and the Beef Information Centre(B.I.C.) and the Heart & Stroke Foundation released a new national brochure called *HeartSmart Nutrition on the Run*. The brochure provides material on HeartSmart eating, the Health Check Program and nutritional information about beef.

"It basically helps people make wise choices for themselves and their

families. It features a three-point check list to help busy people improve their heart health in general," said Corinne Dawley, B.I.C. national consumer information manager.

Nine provincial Heart & Stroke Foundation offices have ordered copies of the brochure to use as an educational tool. British Columbia and Ontario are using them in their door-to-door fund raising campaigns.

Cattle Industry Leaders Meet

Canada's cattle industry leaders met with representatives of the U.S. National Cattlemen's Beef Association at their annual convention in February. Representatives from Mexico also took part in the convention.

"This was an excellent opportunity for the beef organizations in our three countries to exchange information," said Greg Conn, chairman of the ACC.

All three countries pledged to support full compliance to ensure the northern hemisphere remains free from BSE, or Mad Cow disease. An agreement signed by the three countries also pledged to support compliance with feed regulations designed to prevent the potential introduction of BSE.

Following the meetings, Conn described Canada-U.S. cattle industry relations as very good. "Overall, working relationships between our two countries are very positive."

"We're pleased the restricted feeder program is working well, and the Americans are pleased with the number of cattle they are able to send to Canadian feedlots."

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